

July 9, 2003

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY BOARD.**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The Torrance Cable Television Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 9, 2003, at 7:07 p.m. in the Torrance Community Television studio located in the Stanley E. Remelmeyer Telecommunications Center.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Commissioners: Carlson, Craft, Haussmann, Korman, Mikulicich Jr. (arrived 7:13 p.m.), Tsao, and Chair Perkins

**Also Present:** Cindy Hibbard, Clerk Typist  
Mark J. Doddy, TCTV Coordinator  
Michael D. Smith, Cable Television Administrator

**Excused:** None

**3. FLAG SALUTE:**

Commissioner Korman led the salute to the flag.

**4. MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Carlson moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Tsao, carried with an aye vote.*

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

a) June 11, 2003

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Craft moved to approve the minutes for the June 11, 2003, meeting. This motion seconded by Commissioner Carlson, carried with an aye vote.*

**6. SCHEDULED BUSINESS:**

a) Community Matters – NONE

**b) Committee Reports**

**(1) Producer Incentive**

The Committee conducted the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting on Post-Production Refresher and Introduction to A/B Editing hosted by TCTV Staff.

The July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting feature Advanced Camera Techniques and How to Shoot a Show in the Camera.

The Committee has developed the new schedule for the next year. A correction was needed to the schedule. December 5<sup>th</sup> will focus on Advanced Sound Techniques II taught by Don Fefie. Music Licensing Rights will be used as an alternative for July 2, 2004.

Staff has received a draft for the post-cards to promote upcoming meetings, but revisions are needed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Haussmann moved to accept the Producer Incentive Committee Report for June 2003. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Craft, motion carried with aye vote.*

**(2) Franchise Renewal – NONE**

**(3) Operating Policies and Procedures – NONE**

**(4) Future of Access – NONE**

**(5) Video Programming Awards – NONE**

**C. Report of Community Television Center - June, 2003**

Coordinator Doddy discussed statistics for the month. He highlighted 6 new programs were completed compared to 10 in 2002 and 3 in 2001.

He also noted studio usage was down significantly over last month to 9%. He also mentioned Field Equipment Reservations were down as well to 22%. This is the normal time of the year, facility usage drops due to vacations. In addition, with the new rules changes, Producers are using their own equipment more.

Nine new Users were certified, and four Users graduated from the Pre Production Planning workshop.

Brief discussion followed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Korman moved to accept the Torrance Community Television Center Report for June 2003. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Tsao, motion carried with aye vote.*

**D. Report of Legislative and Cable Related Activities – June, 2003**

Administrator Smith gave a brief summary of the report. Time Warner is redesigning the remote control to feature a single, boldly colored button that will send consumers directly to video-on-demand.

During the previous commission meeting, a question was posed to the comparison of rates for cable vs. direct satellite. Staff compared advertised rates and including local channels, the two services are compared on a per channel basis. There appears to be one-cent difference between the two choices. The comparison does not include equipment charges.

Administrator Smith also mentioned and handed out a copy of the Federal Communications Commission annual report on cable rates. The report found that cable rates rose 8.1% (7.1% for basic and 10.8 for expanded basic), equipment rates rose 12%. Almost 10% of cable households subscribe to cable modem service.

Department of Justice and the FBI opened an investigation into Cablevision for improperly reporting expense and falsifying invoices to the tune of \$18 million. TiVo's stock soared on last week's 23.5%. EchoStar Communications and DirecTV jointly filed suit last week against the state of Ohio for passing a 6% tax on satellite service.

Brief discussion followed.

**MOTION:** *Commissioner Carlson moved to accept the Legislative and Cable Related Activities Report for June 2003. This motion, seconded by Commissioner Craft, carried with an aye vote.*

**E. Old Business - NONE**

**F. New Business - NONE**

**G. Addendum Matters – NONE**

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

- a) Secretary Hibbard wished everyone a cool and nice summer.
- b) Coordinator Doddy encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Producer Get-together on Friday, July 11, 2003.
- c) Commissioner Carlson enjoyed show of patriotism with all of the fireworks he saw along the coastline.
- d) Commissioner Craft mentioned his daughter; Suzette Craft has a guest role on NBC's daytime soap opera, Passions. Suzette plays a paramedic on the next two shows. Passions airs daily from 2 to 3:00 p.m.
- e) Commissioner Craft also inquired about getting assistance in producing a public services announcement for the South Bay Children's Health Center. Staff stated that they could give him a list of producers and indicate which ones would be most likely to produce a PSA for him. Staff also advised him to submit an Alphanumeric form and have his message promoted on the on-screen bulletin board.

- f) Commissioner Korman thanked CitiCABLE staff for its coverage of the Torrance Symphony Annual FUNdraiser on Spotlight Torrance.
- g) Commissioner Korman also mentioned she has recently made some good contacts regarding potential sponsors for the annual video programming awards ceremony.
- h) Commissioner Haussmann announced yesterday was the anniversary when Commodore Matthew C. Perry led a squadron of four ships into Tokyo Bay and presented representatives of the emperor with the text of a proposed commercial and friendship treaty.
- i) Chair Perkins expressed concerns about recent tragedy in Lancaster where two young boys died after being left in a SUV.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Perkins adjourned the meeting to reconvene on Wednesday, August 13, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Smith  
Cable Television Administrator